WHIG MOVEMENTS.

The Whig Convention for this State will assemble in this place on the 21st instant, and meetings are being held here and there to appoint delegates. We had intended to review at some length the proceedings of the Guilford and Hertford meetings, as it is probable these proceedings indicate with some degree of certainty what will be the action of the Convention itself; but we have been prevented from doing so by the space occupied in our columns by the Comptroller's Report. It is time enough, however, for the arguments on State issues.

The Guilford meeting was moved and managed by that venerable political sinner, John A. Gilmer, Esq. His Resolutions are in entire keeping with his character as a public man—unfair, one-sided, irrelevant to the time, and marked by bitter hostility to Democracy and popular rights. The Hertford meeting was gotten up under the auspices of that most decided and consistent Whig, the Hon. Kenneth Rayner; and these Resolutions, too, are suggestive of the antecedents of the man who drew them. Mr. Gilmer has, for years, shaken in the breeze political between Free Suffrage by legislative enactment and an open Convention on the Federal basis, with the view to a change of the basis generally; but any one who will examine his course, and reduce his remarks upon the subject to plain English, must see that his advocacy of Free Suffrage is all pretence, and that his main and most darling object is to upset the existing compromises of the Constitution. His organ, the Greensborough Patriot, loses no occasion to dilate on the alleged inequality of the Senatorial basis, going at times almost into tears (of the crocodile order) over the spectacle, which exists only in the imagination of that interesting print, of one white man in Onslow outvoting five white men in Buncombe. The Patriot pipeth unto Buncombe, but Buncombe listeneth not; the Patriot waxeth sad in view of Whig disasters, to be occasioned by the strength of Free Suffrage as a separate and independent measure, and yet no one seriously encourageth its melancholy mood; the Patriot resorteth to artistic efforts to arouse the people against what it terms "Reid's hobby," and calleth hard names with as much assurance and particularity as if it had searched the dictionary for its epithets; and yet notwithstanding all this the great West stands where it was on the subject of Constitutional Reform, and Whiggery continues to decline, as it began to do, in 1848,

Nor is the course of Mr. Rayner on this subject less vascillating or insidious than that of Mr. Gilmer. One of the most timid of our public men, it is natural that he should oppose with caution so popular and powerful a measure as that of Free Suffrage; one of the most ambitious in his own party, it is no matter for surprise that he should so endeavor to shape his action on this subject as to obtain the confidence and enlist in his behalf the prejudices of all sections of the State. The Hertford Resolutions are but the index to his policy; but Mr. Rayner will find, as all temporizing and unreliable politicians have found heretofore, that the people are competent to form their own opinions on public affairs, and that they give their confidence only to such as have shown themselves entitled to it by a straightforward, frank, and consistent course of action.

in all portions of the State.

It appears to be more than probable, judging from the tone of the proceedings of Whig meetings, that their Convention will take ground for a free Convention to amend the Constitution. No one can, however, predict with any certainty what they will do; they may lay down no platform whatever, but content themselves with general declarations and with saving the State with a hurrah and much flashy eloquence on the 22d of February, it being the anniversary of the battle of Buena Vista. Very wellwe are ready for any revelations or movements that may be made; and we shall not, therefore, give ourselves undue concern about what our opponents may

THE DIFFERENCE. It is a significant fact that while Whig meetings in various parts of the State, and many Whigs in the central and Eastern sections, are taking ground for an unrestricted Convention, the Democracy of Western Carolina are standing firmly by Free Suffrage by legislative enactment, and by the basis of representation as it is. The people can here see for themselves the difference between a party which goes for what is deemed expedient for the time, and a party of principle. Aye, the people!for whatever Whig politicians may do or say, the appeal is at least to the people, who can have no motive to do wrong, and who seldom err in their decisions on public questions.

Mr. Copeland, the Artist. We visited Mr. Copeland's room a day or two since, and were much pleased with some paintings which we saw. Mr. Copeland has finished the likenesses of Prof. Deems, Dr. Scott, Mr. Gorman, and Dr. Tompkins; and is now engaged upon the likeness of his Excellency Gov. Reid. lie has also made an excellent copy of a likeness of Mr. Moore, deceased, the father of B. F. Moore,

Mr. Copeland is a native artist of much genius, and we trust he will be liberally encouraged. We are gratified to learn that he expects to reside permanently among us.

Capt. William Nichols, referred to in the tandard of the 7th January, as having died recenty in Mississippi, was the architect who designed and executed the very great improvements made upon our old State House, which was completed in 1822, and burned down in 1831. He was an Englishman, eminently skilled in his profession, and traces of improvement introduced by him are now discoverable n every section of the State. The cottage erected a mile north of this City, on the road to Petersburg, by the late Moses Mordecai, Esq., was designed by im, and was the earliest specimen of that order of rchitecture among us.

New Store. Messrs. W. J. & A. S. Lougze have just completed a store on Fayetteville Street, two deors above B. B. Smith's corner, which is highly creditable to them as enterprising men, as well as to the workmen employed in erecting and finishing it. It fronts twenty feet, and is sixty feet deep. It is an excellent stand for business.

The brick work was executed by Mr. Palmer, the carpenter's work by Messrs. H. & D. Royster, the stone work by Mr. Puttick, the plastering by E. E. Harris, and the painting by Mr. Overby.

We learn that Judges Caldwell and Beile have exchanged Circuits, at the request of the latter Judge Bailey will ride the Edenton, and Judge Caldwell the Raleigh Circuit.

COUNCIL OF STATE. We understand Gor. Reid, has notified the Council of State to meet in Raleig on Thursday the 23d of this month,

THE DEMOCRACY IN MOTION. We publish to-day the proceedings of two Demo cratic meetings-one in Mecklenburg, and the other in Madison. The Charlotte Democrat says of the

Mecklenburg meeting : "On Tuesday last, the Democrats of this County held a meeting and appointed 20 delegates to attend the Convention to be held at Raleigh, to nominate a candidate for Governor. Capt. John Walker, that unflinching Democrat and able champion of our cause, presided, who, for the short time allowed by the Court, had to content himself with making a very few remarks, briefly setting forth the object of the meeting. The proceedings will be found in another column-which, after an appropriate compliment to our present Governor for the highly satisfactory manner he has discharged the trust reposed in him expressed the utmost confidence in the determination of President Pierce to meet the high expectations of his friends, and to make his Administration a bright epoch in the history of Democracy, re-affirmed the orthodoxy of the platform of the late State and National Conventions. The Democracy of Mcklenburg are as true as they were in the days of seventy-six. No disorganizer could raise his head on her soil and live. In the coming canvass they will be united to

The meeting did not recommend any particular man as the candidate, but will support the nominee rhoever he may be, having the fullest confidence in the patriotism and soundness of the nominating Convention. We trust some of the delegates may find it convenient to attend."

man, and with an increased majority will send our

standard-bearer on his way to the mountains rejoi-

The Madison Resolutions were introduced by that sterling Democrat, J. B. Jervis, Esq., and an excellent speech was delivered by David Coleman, Esq., who is doing "yeoman's service" in the cause. The Madison meeting, it will be observed, expressed a preference for W. W. Avery, Esq., for Governor.

The old Democratic spirit is beginning to manifest itself-the party is what it was, a unit upon all essential points; and this spirit will gather force and fire until the election, not only of a Democratic Governor, but of a Democratic Legislature, if our friends in all the Counties will only prove true to themselves and to their cherished cause. Let us all adhere with more firmnes than ever to the maxim-"conciliation, compromise, harmony-every thing for the cause, nothing for men." Let us unite as one man to discourage all disorganization, and let us spare no honest efforts to avail ourselves of all our strength in contests in the various Counties for members of As-

It is highly important that the State Convention should be a full one; and we trust that all the Counties in the State will hold meetings, and appoint delegates who will be certain to attend.

SUPREME COURT.

THURSDAY, Feb. 2. Boyle v. Hanks, from Washington, argued by Smith for plaintiff.

Pettijohn v. Williams, from Chowan, argued by Bragg and Heath for plaintiff and Biggs and Smith

White v. Costin, from Chowan, argued by Heath for plaintiff and Bragg and Smith for defendant. Spruill v. Life Insurance Company, from Wash-

ington, argued by Heath for plaintiff and Smith and Busbee for defendant.

Spruill v. Davenport, from Washington, argued by Smith and Heath for plaintiff and Moore for defen-

FRIDAY, Feb. 3. Moore v. Piercy, from Chowan, argued by Smith and Heath for plaintiff. McKonkey v. Gaylord, from Washington, argued by Heath and Smith for defendant.

Anderson v. Holloman, from Hertford, argued by Bragg for defendant. Gilliam v. Willey, in equity, from Gates, argued

by Moore for plaintiff and Bragg, Heath and Smith Johnson v. Chapman, from Craven, argued by J. II. Bryan for plaintiff and Donnell for defendant.

Mebane v. Patrick, from Guilford, argued by Miller for plaintiff and Bryan for defendant. SATURDAY, Feb. 4. Rives v. Gutherie, from Chatham, argued by Winston for plaintiff and Manly and

Bryan for defendant. City of Raleigh v. Sorrell, from Wake, argued by Miller and Moore for plaintiff and E. G. Haywood for

Melton v. Jones, in equity, from Surry, argued by Miller for plaintiff and Winston for defendant.

Clement v. Clement, in equity, from Davidson, argued by Winston and H. C. Jones for plaintiff, Tinnen v. Womack, in equity, from Chatham, ar-

gued by Bryan for plaintiff and Winston for def. Monday, Feb. 6. Moye v. May, in equity, from Pitt, argued by Moore for plaintiff and Biggs for de-

It may be interesting to our readers in the City and neighborhood to know that the ladies have formed an Association, whose object it is, by a personal visitation of its members, to place a Tract, once a month, in every family in town and the vicinity that will receive it. This Association, we understand, is made up of members without regard to denominational distinctions; its design is to carry on more in detail the same benevolent work that has been prosecuted, with so much success on a general plan, by Rev. Mr. Crowder, the Colporteur of the American Tract Society. Such organizations not only exist, but have been in operation for many years, with more or less efficiency, in the principal Cities and large towns throughout the Union. Some of them employ City Missionaries for the supervision of the Tract Visitors, but our ladies intend to manage the whole concern themselves, and to prosecute their labors of love as a purely voluntary work. . We bespeak for them a hearty reception wherever they go, while all will unite with us in the wish that full success may crown their efforts.

We trust they will not take it amiss if we hintwhich we do with all respect-that while they are out "in the high-ways and hedges" on this errand of benevolence, they will not forget to look somewhat into the temporal condition of the heedless and improvident poor, who are scattered in large numbers around the suburbs, and many of them, too, dwelling in such miserable and comfortless sheds in the back-streets and lanes of the City.

The statement that Hon. Geo. E. Badger, of N. C., is opposed to the Nebraska bill is not true. He approves of the provision touching the slavery question, and that is the main point. He had doubts respecting the rights of the Indians, but we understand those doubts are probably already removed.

N. Y. Herald, Feb. 1.

If the above be true, we may expect soon to hear from the Raleigh Register on the subject. If Mr. Badger be for the bill, that paper may very safely take position on the same side. Wonder if Mr. Badger is Influenced, as the Register says Judge Douglas is, by a wish to make political capital?

WESTERN RAILROAD. The last Fayetteville Carolinian says: "We understand that the Board of Directors of the Western Railroad are about concluding a contract for building and stocking it entire from Fayetteville to some point in the Coal Fields, with a Company in New York. Under the proposed contract the work is to be finished within lifteen months from the date of the agreement. We hope soon to be able to give other particulars." From our Washington Correspondent.

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 4, 1854. The Great Debate opened on the Nebraska Bill-The Speech of Senator Douglas—The excitement increased—The Great Speech and its Effects— Probable Fate of the Measure-The Treaty with Mexico-Case of Senator Phelps-Weather, &c. "Order reigns in Warsaw" were the words uttered

when that devoted country was trampled by the iron heel of despotism. With similiar truth to history it might be written that "order reigns at Washington," when the most intense feeling exists upon a most exciting question. My previous letters have informed you that the bill from the Committee on Territories creating the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska would come up on Monday. At an early our the Senate was crowded to its utmost capacity by anxious spectators to hear Judge Douglas upon this important question. The House of Representatives was directed to attend, and in vain a quorum was held, although calls of the House were made; the Judges of the Supreme Court left their high seats of justice to witness the debate. To the most unobservant spectator it was evident, by the breathless attention of this immense concourse, that some great topic was to be discussed. Some event

"Big with fate of Caesar and of Rome." Although efforts were made to bring up other press-ing business by Judge Adams which he assured the Senate would occupy but a moment; yet all other matters were laid aside to take up the Territorial

When Judge Douglas rose every eye was fixed upon him. It was an era in the life of the statesman, and will, in its effects, be an era in the history

The appearance of the Speaker was much in his favor. His health appeared perfect; his exordium was clear, concise, and to the point. He explained the reasons of the committee in presenting the bill; its provisions in preserving the faith of the nation with Indians that may be embraced within the Territories, guarding their rights, and protecting their interests. As regards the question of slavery his views were presented so clear and specific as no doubt could exist on the minds of any one. He urged that the Compromise of 1820 had been superseded by the act of 1850, and, therefore, had become inoperative, and the question of slavery was left just where, the constitution leaves it, to the people of the States and Territories-subject to no higher or lower law. Here he had closed, as he said, but the extraordinary course of the Abolition leaders, (Chase, of Ohio, and Sumner, of Massachusetts,) in publishing to their satellites, under their own hand, a document charging him with "bad faith," "an atrocious crime, and "servile demagogueism," roused all the energy of his nature, and he turned upon them as "the lion turns upon the hunter's spear" and exposed the falsehood of their statements and the hypocrisy of their conduct. Such an excoriation, so merited and severe, has rarely been witnessed in Congress. No one sympathised with the victims of his generous wrath, because all felt that it was most richly mer-

He then dilated upon the policy of the ordinance of 1787-the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and showed from the history of the nation that it was the people of the nation only, and no Ordinance, Compromise, or action of Congress, regulated this matter-that when the imposition of any such unauthorized legislation, was felt, the people went in opposition to such legislation; and when such effects were not left, they acted as was prop to their own condition and interests.

But I shall not attempt an analysis of this most

brilliant effort. You and all your readers will no doubt read it. But, however, you can form but a feeble idea from reading it, of its able and graceful delivery, and its overwhelming and powerful effects. So overwhelming that, although Chase and Sumner had prepared themselves for the whole week previousl (as they had denied on the Tuesday previous, for time to examine the questions of history,) yet when the speech was delivered, they made no effort to reply; but complained that an error had been committed in the date of their address, the date which was the one affixed to it-the truth of which they could not deny-nor would not, had not the argus eye of Douglas fixed the date to be Sunday, as the Holyday for their nefarious and infamous manifesto. When it came up on the next day (for it was understood that when the bill was taken up it should be the order of the day until disposed of finally.) they again craved time to examine a question that had been their study for years. They may take as much time as they please; the arguments and facts as adduced by Judge Douglas can never be answered-not even if they require until that day which Charles James Fox informs us is the great day of answering all things-" the day of judgment." The whole Senate-the President of the Senate-the crowded auditory were held with breathless interest upon this master effort of the day. Every one speaks in raptures of this speech. On one occasion so completely were the auditory carried away, that an open demonstration of applause was not only unchecked by the President of the Senate, but seemingly was united in by him. That this feeling was not limited was evinced, when I saw General Dawson, of Geo., and others who differed with Judge Douglas approach him and cordially congratulate him and the nation upon this occasion, and pledge to him their warm support to his measure. This effort has driven the last nail into the coffin of abolition, and it will be buried so deep that the hand of resurrection cannot reach it. It was not only an effort of brilliant statesmanship, historical research, and bewitching eloquence, but an act of noble and enlarged patriotism-a defence of the laws, and the people, and the constitution-an act worthy of Rome in Rome's best days, prostrating under foot the hydra that has disturbed our peace, would divide our coun-

try, and destroy our glorious Union. Mr. Chase replied at length on Friday on this important question. It will probably be debated today by Mr. Dixon, of Kentucky in reply. I am happy to see the whole southern press united upon this subject—a rare circumstance, and a "consummation devoutly to be wished for." So the South can depend upon the loyalty of the President. To my own knowledge, if not the author of the amendment so important to this bill, he is its active friend, and he and his Cabinet are a unit upon this question. It is determined to take the vote at as early a day as possible, and that no Southern Senator after the able

General Gadsden is in this City, and in daily conference with the Executive on his late treaty with Mexico. Although the public have not been officially advised, yet we know enough of its details from reliable sources to say that it releases our government from the obligations imposed by the 11th article of the Guadalupe Treaty, gives us a route for a railway to the Pacific, forty millions of acres of land between the Rio Grande and the Colorado, and South of the Gila, the Arezonia mines, and settles the Garay Grant, for which twenty millions are to be paid

exposition of Judge Douglas will say a word upon

The Senate have had the question of the right of Mr. Phelps to a seat, and your Senator made on Thursday last a logical and powerful effort adverse to the claim. In a former letter I expressed the views entertained that the Legislature having failed to elect a successor, his seat was ipso facto vacant. For, supposing that the Legislature failed again to elect, then by the same rule he would still hold over.

which might extend his time ad infinitum. The weather here this week has been as delightful as any you ever have in the sunny South-mild, balmy and cheerful. But on Thursday night it changed to a cold North-easter, and brought a light fall-of snow. To-day is bright, bracing and beautiful. I hope that this will reach you in good time, which from obstructions of the roads failed last week.

On Dir. An exchange paper states that Mrs. Mowatt, who is now in New York, has an engagement to play at Charleston on the 20th of February. After leaving there Mrs. Mowatt will commence a series of engagements at the North, to continue until the month of May. It is said her marriage will take place and in June. The house was a series of the continue until the month of May. take place early in June. The happy expectant of her hand is, according to report, a son of the former editor of the Richmond Enquirer.

Hous Price. A slave was bought in Richmon few days since by James W Binford, of Henrico, and Augustus Crenshaw, of Charles City, for \$1,700. He was forty-four years old, and was insured for \$1,900. THE ARABIA ARRIVED Advance in Breadstuffe!

HALIFAX, Feb. 4. The Arabia arrived at her wharf to-day. Flour had advanced one shilling. We quote Canal at 44s. Corn is much better, white being quoted at 51, and yellow at 50. White whear had solvanced to 13s. Consuls declined to 91 a 911.

THE EASTERN QUESTION. An answer from the Czar determining whether his future course would be for peace or war, was hourly expected when the Asia sailed. It was expected and believed that it would

For the Standard. CHAPEL HILL, Jan. 25, 1854. W. W. Holder, Esq.-Sir: In the Standard of the 14th instant, I have seen some strictures on my

analysis, lately published in the same paper. Since

"it is the duty of every friend of science to put error to flight come whence it may," I wish to notice the errors into which Dr. Tompkins has fallen in attempting to prove my analysis "entirely incorrect." Dr. Tompkins assumes that I took only one hundred grains of soil, and therefore argues that I did not take enough. This assumption is entirely gratuitous, and the quantity taken was in every instance sufficient for the correct determination of the ingredients sought.

Dr. Tompkins states that the Phosphoric Acid is estimated to be three one-hundredths of a grain " and is therefore too small a quantity to be detected. This also rests on the assumption that I took only one hundred grains of soil. Even if I had taken only that quantity there would have been nothing at all incredible in stating that the Phosphoric Acid from it had been weighed. For the balance which I used in all these determinations gave with perfect accuracy one-one-hundreth of a grain, and I saw as few days ago a balance made by a mechanic of our own country, which will detect less than one onethousandth of a grain.

The loss which I found-thirty-nine one-hundredths of one per cent-is in no way remarkable. By reference to the analysis of soils made by different Chemists the loss will be found to be sometimes more, sometimes less.

Dr. Tompkins contends that no farmer in our State "with perhaps a few exceptions," would know what was required to renovate Mr. Siler's soil from looking at the Analysis. All I have to say in reply, is, that Mr. Siler wanted the Analysis, and I made it for

But I have not classified the soil, and therefore Dr. Tompkins argues that the Analysis is incorrect. Now he must know that the classification of a soil belongs to its Examination and not to its Analysis. There is no need of any farmer calling in the aid of a Chemist to classify a soil. Many do it very reagily from simple inspection. And in any case all that is required is to find what per contage of sand is left from washing a known weight of the dry soil. For this purpose one hundred grains is a sufficient and very convenient quantity; and the weighing need not be made with a balance capable of detecting "three one-hundreths of a grain.

Earther, Dr. Tompkins says that "it requires something for a Chemist to know at present besides originating speculations and hypotheses in the Laboratory, he must have some practical experience in field experiments." There I agree with him. But cannot see what that has do with proving my Analysis incorrect, or how it applies to me at all. For I have never seen any speculations and hypotheses of official duties, has endeared himself to the party mine originated in the Laboratory; and with field experiments I have been occupied from my boyhood.

when it is proved to be erroncous, or when "occas-Whether or not our State has so justly been styled "the Rip Van Winkle of the Union," as Dr. Tompkins thinks, I leave for others to argue. But with how little justice it is applicable to the present one instance" may be seen from the fact that there is not a Professorship of Agricultural Chemistry in

the University of Virginia, the College of South Ca-

It will be time to speak of the Analysis of marl

rolina, or in the University of Georgia. B. S. HEDRICK.

SENATOR DOUGLAS' GREAT SPEECH. We cheerful! ly give place in our columns this morning to the following flattering tribute from the Washington Star to the late brilliant effort of Judge Douglas on the Nebraska question.

"We never witnessed more intense and breathless interest manifested at the delivery of a speech in the Senate chamber of the United States, than was seen there yesterday. The galleries were jammed with spectators ere the hour of meeting, a large portion of whom were of the fair sex. The floor and lobbies, too, were crowded with privileged persons comprising a greater show of the acknowledged talent, learning and distinction congregated in Washington than we ever before saw collected in the Senate Hall on such an occasion. Indeed, it was conceived by all to be perhaps as important a Senatorial occasion for the future of the United States as ever took place. A large portion of the members of both Houses had hardly determined precisely what position to occupy upon the question, though, as we have before remarked, there can be little doubt that the tehdency of political influences at work on them, is such as to render it almost certain that they, in the said, would be found standing with Mr. Douglas on his proposition. The fact of their well-known indecision, however, operated to increase the interest in the scene of the day. All felt, too, that to the renowned orator himself, the occasion was the turnng point or corner of his destiny. For the week before, his enemies, or rather those who, being personally identified with the future of his rivals in both great parties, had been doing their best to create the impression that he had immolated himself by boldly trusting his propects on the views and principles enunciated in his Nebraska bill. Thus, there were not a few present who went there hoping that he would make a dead failure, in attempting to reconcile the North to the justice and sound policy of his measure. One could hear a pin drop from the beginning to the end of his speech, even for twenty yards out behind each entrance to the Senate and its galleries, where the crowd was as dense as immediately around the bar.

We never saw public men more elated by a speech, than were the immediate admirers and friends of the orator himself. They knew well that his future depended in a great measure upon his success in this effort. This is: that had he failed, his prespects for the Presidency would have been more completely destroyed, than ever were those of a distinguished aspirant for that position, by a single faux pas, or haulting speech. He has, howevever immeasurably elevated himself here; while at the same time he has given the measure on which he has thus ventured all his fature, the vantage ground, in the opinion of its most bitter opponents in this city."

The Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says

"The Deficiency Bill is making rapid progress in the House. The Railroad Bill progresses slowly, and there is evidently a disposition in the committee not to trouble the House with two many bills. A majority of them, as far as I can learn, will be reported upon adversely. Congress will sit here till September, and the next

Congressional elections will give the people a chance of passing on the acts which they have passed or failed to pass while in session. The Pacific Railroad is making progress in committee, and a bill will soon be reported to both Houses. It will be the leading question of the day, and perhaps give rise to a modification of present party

arrangements." SALE OF STOCK. The sale of the stock of delinbuent, gubscribers to the N. C. Railroad was made in this place on last Thursday. Many shares, we learn, were paid up before the day of sale. What was sold averaged about \$42 50 per share. We are informed that there will not be a loss of more than \$500 in the whole of the Guilford subscription. Ibid.

Dram or Jone W. Wascur, Esq. It is our melancholy duty to announce the death of John W. Wright, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of Cape Fear at this place. He died suddenly last evening from an attack of hemorrhage of the lungs. He has been in feeble health for some time past. He was a most excellent and worthy citizen.

Fuy, Car.

Housemond Words, by Dickens. We have received comy of this capital Journal. Published weekly in New York, at \$2 per annum, by McElrath & Barker.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PETERSBURG.

whole Block of Buildings in Rains—\$75,000

Worth of Property Destroyed.

SATURDAY MORNING, 8 o'clock.

It falls to our lot this morning to chronicle the most destructive fire that has occurred in our city

for many years.

About eleven o'clock last night, the store of Messrs. forrisons & Marable was discovered to be on fire. The flames speedily communicated to the store of Messrs. Kerr and Marbury, on the north, and that of Messrs. Turnbull & Stone, on the south, and each of the buildings was entirely consumed. Messrs. Kerr & Marbury's loss is estimated at \$20,000, which was fully covered by insurance. The stock of Messrs, Morrisons and Marable twas completely destroyed, only about three-fourths insured. About \$3,000, on deposite with this firm, is now in the ruins, in one of Herring's best Iron Safes, and we trust, will be preserved. A large portion of the goods of Messrs-Turnbull & Stone were saved, although somewhat damaged by removal. We are gratified to learn

however, that their loss is fully met by insurance. Immediately after the discovery of the fire in the store of Messrs. Morrisons & Marable, a tremendous explosion took place, occasioned by the igniting of several kegs and canisters of gunpowder. The explosion did no other harm than to arouse the

The block of buildings consisting of four tenements was the property of Col. George W. Bolling. They were supposed to be worth about thirty-five thou-

sand dollars-fully insured. The general impression is that the fire was the work of an incendiary. The gentleman who first entered the building after the discovery of the fire states that it was burning about fifteen paces from the front entrance, and might easily have been extinguished with a few buckets of water.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to our noble and energetic firemer They promptly repaired to the scene of the conflagration, and after battling manfully for hours with the devouring elements under every disadvantage, succeeded, after many hours of gallant and untiring efforts in subduing the flames. An adequate supply of water at the commencement of the fire would have secured the safety of all the property destroyed. Pet. Democrat.

MEETING IN MECKLENBURG.

At a meeting of a portion of the Democrats of Mecklenburg County, held in Charlotte, on the 24th day of January, it being Tuesday of the County Court; On motion, John Walker, Esq., was called to the Chair, and J. M. Hutchinson requested to act

The object of the meeting being explained to be for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the State Convention to be held in Raleigh for nomingting a suitable standard-bearer in the next Gubernatorial canvass in this State, the following Resolutions were submitted and unanimously adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the Democrats of Mecklenburg, having unlimited confidence in the truth of the principles of their party and believing them to promote the prosperity and best interests of the Republic are determined as in times past to rally to their support, and aid in continuing in North Carolina the triumph which they have gained throughout the extent of the Union.

Resolved, That our present Chief Magistrate, DAVID S. REID, by his able and efficient advocacy of Democratic principles and faithful discharge of his throughout the State, and in his retirement carries with him the confidence and best wishes of the entire Demogracy.

Resolved, That we have confidence in the Democratic Convention, and will cordially support the nominee of said Convention, provided he is sound and reliable upon all the principles of the party as laid down and expressed in the State and National Conventions-the platforms of which are hereby endorsed and approved by this meeting Resolved, That we have the utmost confidence in

the patriotism and soundness of President Pierce upon all questions touching the rights of the States and the South, and that so long as he adheres to the doctrines promulgated in his Inaugural Address and the recent Message to Congress, we will give to his Administration a cordial and zealous support. Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting ap-

point 20 delegates to attend the State Convention, in the City of Raleigh, to join their brethren of the State in their deliberations for the common welfare. In pursuance of the 5th Resolution the Chairman appointed the following delegates, namely : Jos. W. Ross, R. P. Waring, Richard Peoples, W. W. Elms, B. Morrow, Jno. P. Ross, Caleb Erwin, W. M. Matthews, John Kirk, Wm. Reid, Thos. B. Price, C. T. Alexander, J. B. Kerr, Wm. Black, J. W. Morrow,

S. H. Elliott, C. G. Alexander, Williamson Wallace, P. J. Wilson, Z. Morris, James Johnston, Wm. Maxwell, J. M. Potts, S. A. Davis, C. B. Cross, Richard Rozzell, Dr. J. S. Gribble, F. H. Maxwell. On motion, the Chairman and Secretary were add-

ed to the list of delegates.

On motion, it was Resolved, That the proceedings of the meeting be sent to the "Western Democrat" and "North Carolina Standard" for publication.

The meeting then adjourned. JOHN WALKER, Chairman. J. M. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN MADISON. At a meeting of the Democratic party of Madison county, held in the Court House at Jewel Hill, on the 17th instant, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to the Democratic State Convention, to be holden in Raleigh, in order to nominate a candidate for Governor, Robert Teague, Esq., was called to the Chair, and J. B. Jervis was requested to act as Sec-

The following resolutions were introduced and read by J. B. Jervis, and after a most excellent speech from David Coleman, Esq., were unanimous-

Resolved, That whereas it is proposed to hold a Democratic State Convention in the city of Raleigh at some early day for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Governor, the Chairman of this meeting be requested to appoint five Delcgates to represent the Democracy of Madison coun-

Resolved, That the Democrats of Madison cling with unchanged constancy to the well known principles of the Democratic party,—that they stand un-equivocally and uncompromisingly on the "Balti-more Platform," and adhere with unaltered firmness. to the great principles of Free Suffrage and popular rights, embodied in the resolutions of the Democratic State Convention of 1850.

Resolved, That we heartily support and approve of the Administration of President Pierce; that his antecedents gave us full confidence in the wisdom of his selection by the people; and that every act of his Administration brings us the assurance that we have not been deceived.

Resolved, That the Democracy of this county recognise the peculiar importance of internal improvements by the State; and especially advocate the extention of the Central Rail Road, East to Beaufort and west to the Tennessee line.

Resolved. That while we expect cordially to support the nominee of the Convertion, in the full confidence that he will be worthy our support; and while we cheerfully acknowledge the merits of various gentlemen whose names have been bro forward in connection with the nomination, the Democrats of this county would respectfully suggest the name of W. W. Avery, Esq., of Burke, as their favorite choice, and as one who, from his character, talents, services, and unflinching devotion to Democratic principles, is in every way worthy to fill the position of Chief Magistrate of the State.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Asheville News.

The Chairman, in obedience to the first resolution appointed the following gentlemen Delegates, viz:

J. R. Jervis, Dr. John Yaneey, Col. J. R. Weaver, Wm. Goldsmith, and James Jack.

The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Chairman and Secretary, and then the meeting adjourned.

ROBT. TEAGUE, Chairman.

J. B. Jervis, Secretary. forward in connection with the nomination, the

SALEBURY. H. A. Beard, has been elected inten-dant, and James E. Kerr, John J. Shaver, Wm. H. Smith, Jas. F. Chambers, John Shuman, J. I. Brown, Andrew Hurphy, and John W. Ellis, Com-missioners of the former Salisbury. Frugality, like a short and pleasant journey, i tended with much enjoyment and little toll.

From the National Intelligences PLAG OF THE PREE. BY G. W. CUTTER.

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO R. W. LATHAM, MISO

[Copyright secured according to Law.]
Fing of the free! Fing of the Free!
How glows a doting nation's soul,
How leap a million hearts to see
Thy rainbow in the sky unrol;
To view thy beaming stars appear
In all their morning dawn of fame,
Or c'en from minstrel lips to hear
The sound of thy endearing name! Twas not from love of mere domain,
Twas not from lust of cold renown;
Thou wast created to sustain
The lowly and the trodden down—

To float a mighty refuge here,
From tyrant king and bigot fool,
Where power should never interfere,
Where reason's voice alone should rule. Thy lovely folds at first were spread Beneath a haughty tyrant's reign, When our devoted fathers bled. To break his goading, galling chain;
And many a field and many a flood,
Where now thy light triumphant waves,
Was crimsoned with their sacred blood,

And rendered holy by their graves. And we, thy children, never yet Have stained their fair celestial hue; No star from their broad fold has se', No stripe forsook its field of blue; But, gleaming like thy parent skies, Full many a rising orb appears.

And, glittering in thy gorgeous dyes.

Our onward path of glory cheers.

Tis true that in our prosperous hour The factious and the proud have strayed; Forgetting that paternal Power
To whom those spotless warriors prayed;
But He who to this favored land Conveyed them o'er the stering sea, Has stretched His dear protecting hand To guard the shrines of liberty.

And still around our utmost shore The links of love's enduring chain Our hero father's bound of yore In their resistless strength remain, They're stamped upon each manly heart, Whatever discord's hand hath done; Tho' countless leagues of Ocean pari, We still are one! we still are one!

One in the struggle for mankind, One in the strafe for equal laws-One, only one, in heart and mind, For ever one in freedom's cause: And tyrants might as well enchain The billows of the mighty sen, As for a moment's space restrain Our onward march of destiny.

Already from each golden height. That o'er the broad Pacific gleams. Thy halo of insp'ring light In its victorious splendor beams; And soon, all lightning like, will leap Across those bread and tranquil waves: And nations, startled from their sieep,

Shall find they are no longer slaves. For howsee'er to power and place The selfish cringe, the timid quail, Heaven will avenge our injured race— The truth is God's and must prevail; And freedom's area circling out, As billows from the centre roll. Her foes' dishonest power shall route, And cheer the earth from pole to pole.

Thy dazzling folds shall thus be sent, And all thy lovely hues be given, To light each mighty continent With the inspiring glow of heaven; Till o'er the latest despet's grave, In all the light of truth unfarled, Thy peaceful stars and stripes shall wave The flag of the admiring world.

MARRIED.

On 26th January, by the Rev. Jno. Stedler, Mr. J. A. Bennett, of Rocking ham county, N. C., to Miss Elizabeth A. Smith, daughter of Samuel Smith, of Caswell co., N. C. Milton Chronicle and Roanoke Republican please copy. On Friday 23d December, at the residence of Evan Davis. Esq., by the Rev. James Needham, Wm. E. Davis, Esq., to Miss Arabella Hill, daughter of Wm. Hill Esq., all of Sarry

In this county on the 25th Instont, by Peleg Rogers, Esq. Mr. A. J. Reberts, of Orange county, to Miss Lucy A. Moore, daughter of John C. Moore.
On the 26th ult., by the Rev. John T. Clark, Dr. William H. Henderson, of Caswell, N. C., and Miss Mary J., daughter of Elijah Hundley of Halifax, Va.

DIED.

At Buens Visin, Johnston county, on the 29th January last, John McLeed Morning, son of Cel. William H. Morr. ing, in the 4th year of his age. Born on a Sabbath morning, his short but joyous life ended on last Sabbath evenng; and he was taken in his innocency to Heaver. He is a bright and beautiful boy. Our Saviour never in h.s bosom a lovelier lamb. On Sunday, the 22d instant, at the residence of his father, Etheldred Green, Esq., of Franklin county, Mr. John Henry Green, aged about 25 years.

THE MARKETS.

NCEPOLK, February 4.

REPORTED FOR THE "NORTH-CAROLINA STANDARD"

BY A. M. M'PHEETERS & Co.,

Wholesale Greeers, Forwarding of Commission Merchants.

No. 6 ROANORE SQUARE. FLOUR-Our quotations of this article are always the prices on 50 days credit. Flour being invariably sold in this Market on these terms. We quote S. F. 81, @ 8%; Extra \$9; Family \$914. CORN—Has declined since the Asia's news. Sales of whire and mixed at 82 @ 86 cts.

STAVES-Continue in good demand at our last quota-GROCERIES.—X. O. Sugar 48/ @ 51/ cts. P. R. 51/ @ cts.; Coffee Sugar 71/ @ 8 cts; Clarified 81/ to 9 cts.; Crushed and Loaf 91/ @ 10 cts.; N. O. Molasses 81 @ 28 cts. Candles, Adamantine 26 @ 28; [Mould 14 @ 15 cts.; Sperm 31 @ 35 cts.; Rio Coffee 11% @ 12 cts; Lug. 13 @ 18% NAVAL STORES - Tar \$2%; Rosin, common \$1 50@ \$1 75; White \$4 @ \$4); Spirits Turpentine, 64 @ 65 cts.

The past week has been rather an excitable one in the FLOUR market. On Saturday last the price of Flour advanced 50 to 75 cents, and sales were made on Monday at \$7 75 for super. Since then the market has become more settled, and prices are down to \$7 3734 and \$7 50, at which price it was selling yesterday. The supply continues abun-

FAYATTBYILLE, Feb. 4.

dant.

COTTON is lower, and sales are made at 9% for best.

CORN is in good demand at \$1 10 from wagons.

OATS are lower. The supply was large during the week.

Sales made at 60 to 65 cents from wagons.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE has advanced, and would bring 60 cents per gallon—perhaps more. But little in market.

No sales of raw TURPENTINE to report.

Carolinian. NAVAL STORES-Further sales in TURPENTINE yes-

NAVAL STORES—Further sales in TURPENTINE yesterday of some 705 bbls., and this morning of \$50 do., at \$4 10 for yellow, \$5 28 for virgin, and \$2 85 for hard—B 280 lbs. The market is firm at above quotations, with a fair demand for the article. In SPIRITS TURPENTINE we note sales yesterday of about \$85 bbls. at 60 cents B gallon; the market closing with few or no buyers at this figure. No transactions this morning, up to the time of closing our enquiries, that we hear of, and the article is quiet. Sales on Thursday (not before reported) of 1150 bbls. COMMON ROSIN at \$1 65 @ \$1 08 for medium and large size bbls. No sales of TAR. TIMBER-Sales of five rafts at \$8, \$9, \$10, \$11 50 @

TOBACCO-The market remains much the same as last uoted. The quantity offering still continues small.

COTTON—The market is lawer, and we have to note sales

t 914c. At this figure there is a good demand.

CORN—We have to report sales at 90c.

WHEAT—We hear of but little doing to-day. Prime

white commands 82.
SALT—We note sales of several bundred make at \$1.70 GUANO... The market is very active, with large sales at \$50. The supply, we think, will be ample, and we look for

COTTON—Sales of 3500 bales at firm rates.
COFFEE—Sales of 1000 bags at 12 cts, for Blo, being 1/c.

advance, and 13 ets for Java. SUGAR—Sales of 550 blids. at 4% ets. for Orleans and 4%c. for Cube.
MOLASSES—Sales of \$40 bbls, Orleans at 22 cents.
FLOUR—Sales 11,500 bbls, at \$8 82 @ \$8 75 for State and \$8 87 @ \$9 12 for Obio. Sales of 2250 bbls. Southern

at \$6 87 @ 89 12. WHEAT—Sales of 3,500 Bushels at \$2 87 @ \$5 41 for CURN-Sales of \$5,000 beabels at \$234 etc. for mixed PORK-Sales of 900 bbls, at \$16 for Mers and \$12 50 for

GARDEN SEED.—We are now in receipt of a large temply of Garden Seed, warranted fresh, to which the attention of Gardeners is invited.

WILLIAMS & HAYWOOD.

TAKS REED.—Red closer, Hords grass, Blue grass Imized lows grass and Locerce. Just to hand at the gr Store of WILLIAMS & HAYWOOD. Drug Store of WILLIAMS & HAT WOOD.

Rabigh, Pab. 7, 1968.